



**Weekly**  
**October 26 – 1 November**

On Thursday last week, Minister Bright Rwabirama joined farmers at Hotel Africana to launch the “Farmers Manifesto”. The document contains the issues that the Farmers, who are the country’s largest group of voters want addressed in exchange for their votes. All political parties present promised to deliver exceedingly. Farmers know what they want. Its not sugar, salt or soap. It’s a farmer sensitive manifesto. [Click for details.](#)

## Residents denounce Operation Wealth Creation



(Left) Minister Bright Rwabirama stated that army officials are being used because they are disciplined. Right, are community members during the Baraza

The Operation Wealth Creation (OWC) program in Pader and Agago districts has come under fire by the community. The residents have come out to denounce the program that is frustrating them. Since its implementation, there are no signs of creation of wealth in their households, but a vicious cycle of poverty.

During a community Baraza conducted last week, the residents demanded that the presidential Program that seeks to create wealth in households under the National Agriculture Advisory services (NAADS) be renamed Operation Poverty creation. The OWC was established in July 2013 by President Museveni. He decided to deploy the army officers after completing a short course at Makerere University to coordinate NAADS activities after accusing the officials of mismanaging the program.

*“How do they expect us to become wealthy when they are distributing rotten cassava cuttings? How do you expect better agricultural advise and technical support from soldiers who were only oriented in Agriculture for two weeks? Why should we continue with the program when the extension workers were fired? Why should the two weeks trained soldiers assume for the community?”*

Its quite unfortunate that the residents did not get answers to the so many questions sampled above. Their community leaders could just look on, bow their heads and in certain instances smile sheepishly. Ismail Akena, a resident from Atanga sub-county added that it has become increasingly difficult for them to demand for services from the soldiers.

*“How do you expect me, Akena to question an army officer? How can the community follow up someone with a gun?, he lamented.*

During the launch of the Farmers Manifesto last week, Rural women farmers also lamented about their phobia for armed men in uniform. It remains to be seen if the Government will respond to this outcry.

## AAU At Annual Oil Week-South Africa



Flavia Nalubega, the AAU’s Oil in Uganda staff Writer was in South Africa last week for the Annual 22<sup>nd</sup> Africa Oil week. The global event attracted hundreds of Oil, gas and mining sector players and Governments across Africa.

This year, the conference focused on the Up stream industry. This covers the actual production and sell of oil.

Uganda was well represented by the Permanent Secretary of Ministry of Energy, Kabagambe Kaliisa. In his submission, he indicated that Government was in control of all the oil and mining activities for the benefit of all Ugandans. He however did not commit himself on how soon Uganda would start exporting its oil and reap from oil revenues.

However, he informed the meeting that Tullow and Total both companies that will be handling Uganda’s oil would have their production licenses before end of year.

For details about this event, kindly [click.](#)

## Partner Board members Trained in Arusha



Participants at the end of the training in Arusha last week.

ActionAid Uganda in partnership with ActionAid Denmark facilitated a five days training for 27 Board members of partner Organisations and AAU staff in TCDC in Arusha Tanzania. The training aimed at equipping Board members with knowledge for effective Board Governance for improved value for money, service delivery and accountability.

At the end of the week long training, participants had had their skills and competency to deliver organisational aspirations enhanced. Participants were also taken through understanding effective Board Governance, functions and roles of management boards, board building and strategic change management.

Omodo Martin, the Board Chairperson of Omodoi Parents Association (an ActionAid partner Organisation) remarked that the training was very inspiring and timely.

*“We are in the process of reviewing and smartening our Organisational strategy. Am going to use this knowledge to guide the process back home for the growth and development of our Organisation”, he said.*

The participants also promised to hold meetings with the rest of the board members in their respective organisations to share knowledge but also review and authenticate their existing policies for the growth and development of their CSOs.

## HR Unit has the strongest finger print; ActionAid CEO



Christine, with the Ugandan Flag joins HR colleagues in a photo moment representing individual countries at the HROD conference in South Africa.

“The Human Resources and Organizational Development (HROD) unit has the strongest finger print in the federation”, says ActionAid International CEO.

Adriano made these remarks when he interfaced with Human Resource managers and Directors during the recently concluded HROD Conference. The five day event took place last week at Centurion Lake Hotel in Pretoria, South Africa.

Participants came from Africa, Asia, Latin America and Europe. ActionAid Uganda was represented by Christine Aboke, the Organizational HROD Director. The HR professionals were educated about Feminist leadership and their role in ensuring Feminist leadership thrives in the Organization. The People Management Scorecard was also introduced and discussed by the participants.

*“We need to rethink our way of work and be cost conscious in response to the reduction in donor funding. We also need to invest in Organizational learning and development as a build up to institutional financial stability.*

Speaking to the Weekly, Christine highly rated the conference in comparison to previous meetings.

*“The topics discussed were very strategic and relevant to the current world situation of reduction in donor funding and the shrinking political space”, she said.*

Welcome back Christine and we look forward to the roll out of the skills and ideas attained.

For details about the conference, please visit the Hive on [this link.](#) Use your email username and password to access the page.

**Let the Count down begin. With just 9 days to go, we look forward to the Western Leg of the Anti-corruption Caravan. We shall be in Kabaale, Rukungiri, Kanungu, Ntungamo, Mbarara, Sheema, Bushenyi, Rubiriizi, Kasese and Kabarole. Your No counts. Reject Corruption Today!!**

## WEEK AHEAD:

- Preparations for the Western Leg of the Anti-Corruption Caravan are under way. With funding from DGF, we look forward to the denouncement of corruption out of Uganda forever
- Joyce Nabwire Baker, the Women Protection Center Coordinator is in Netherlands for the International Women Rights Conference for the entire week.
- The HROD unit is conducting interviews to fill vacant positions in response to the Organizational efficiency review conducted earlier this year. We wish all candidates success.